

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Cross-Reference section as follows:

~~The present patent application is the U.S. national phase of PCT/US00/17078, which claims priority from the US provisional application 60/140,417, Hannel, et al., *Using a standard database system interface to check access to a resource*, filed 6/22/99. The present application is further a continuation in part of PCT/US99/14585, Hannel, et al., *Generalized policy server*, filed 6/28/99 and having a priority date of 6/29/98. PCT/US99/14585's U.S. national phase is USSN 09/720,277. The present application contains the entire *Detailed Description* and drawings of USSN 09/720,277. The new material in the present patent application begins at the section titled *Improvements in the generalized policy server* and includes new figures 38-54.~~

The present application is a U.S. national phase application as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 371 et seq. and claims the priority benefit of Patent Cooperation Treaty application number PCT/US00/17078 filed June 21, 2000 and now expired; Patent Cooperation Treaty application number PCT/US00/17078 claims the priority benefit of U.S. provisional patent application 60/140,417 filed June 22, 1999 and now expired; the present application is also a continuation-in-part and claims the priority benefit of U.S. patent application 09/720,277 filed March 12, 2001, which is a U.S. national phase application as provided by 35 U.S.C. § 371 et seq. and claims the priority benefit of Patent Cooperation Treaty application number PCT/US99/14585 filed June 28, 1999 and now expired; Patent Cooperation Treaty application number PCT/US99/14585 claims the priority benefit of U.S. provisional patent application number 60/091,130 filed June 29, 1998 and now expired; U.S. patent application 09/720,277 is also a continuation-in-part and claims the priority benefit of U.S. patent application 09/034,507 filed March 4, 1998 and now U.S. patent number 6,408,336, which claims the priority benefit of U.S. provisional patent application number 60/039,542 filed March 10, 1997 and now expired

as well as U.S. provisional patent application number 60/040,262 filed March 10, 1997
and now expired.